



Winthrop University  
**Digital Commons @ Winthrop University**

---

Winthrop News 2012

Winthrop News and Events Archive

---

Summer 7-30-2012

# Class of 2012 Fulfilling Their Dreams After Graduation

Winthrop University

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.winthrop.edu/winthropnews2012>

---

## Recommended Citation

Winthrop University, "Class of 2012 Fulfilling Their Dreams After Graduation" (2012). *Winthrop News 2012*. 69.  
<https://digitalcommons.winthrop.edu/winthropnews2012/69>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Winthrop News and Events Archive at Digital Commons @ Winthrop University. It has been accepted for inclusion in Winthrop News 2012 by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ Winthrop University. For more information, please contact [bramed@winthrop.edu](mailto:bramed@winthrop.edu).



ABOUT

ADMISSIONS &amp; AID

ACADEMICS

STUDENT LIFE

ATHLETICS

GIVING



07/30/2012

SHARE

All News

Archives

RSS News Feeds

Winthrop in the News

# Class of 2012 Fulfilling Their Dreams After Graduation

## Quick Facts

- Everett Johnson, a McNair Scholar and dance performance major, was selected as one of 15 \$50,000 national winners of the Jack Kent Cooke Graduate Arts Award for those with artistic or creative promise.
- Matt Horn, a soccer player and a biology major and chemistry minor, was selected as one of 51 \$5,000 national winners of the Phi Kappa Phi Graduate Fellowship.
- From 1920-2000, six Winthrop chemistry graduates earned Ph.Ds. Since 2003, 14 chemistry graduates will have earned Ph.Ds. by the end of 2012.

ROCK HILL, S.C. – Many Winthrop University **Class of 2012** graduates have reported to work or are preparing for graduate schools in the fall.

**Everett Johnson**, a **McNair Scholar** and dance performance major, was selected as one of 15 national winners of the **Jack Kent Cooke Graduate Arts Award** for those with artistic or creative promise. Nearly 470 students applied for the award, which provides up to \$50,000 annually for three years of graduate study.

Johnson will attend **New York University's Tisch School of the Arts** where he will pursue a master's degree in fine arts in choreography/performance.

**Matt Horn**, a soccer player and a biology major and chemistry minor, was selected as one of 51 \$5,000 national winners of the **Phi Kappa Phi Graduate Fellowship**. He was chosen as the recipient of the **Walter & Adelheid Hohenstein Endowed Fellowship**, which is given to the best candidate within each of the five PKP regions. Horn will study medicine at the **University of North Carolina Medical School**.

Few students are able to excel in athletics, scholarship and service, as Horn managed to do, according to **Jennifer Disney**, previous director of Winthrop's **Office of Nationally Competitive Awards (ONCA)**, who assisted Horn and Johnson with their applications.

Winthrop instituted **ONCA** in 2006 to help its students compete with the best and brightest across the nation and the world. Since then, **ONCA** has assisted 90 students in applying for nationally competitive awards, 30 of whom have received recognition as finalists or winners of prestigious scholarships, including 15 **Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarships** to study abroad and the first **Rhodes Scholar** finalist in Winthrop's 125-year history.

Meanwhile in chemistry, the department continues to make huge strides. From 1920-2000, six Winthrop chemistry graduates earned Ph.Ds. Since 2003, 14 chemistry graduates will have earned Ph.Ds. by the end of 2012.

The 2012 chemistry class is particularly well-prepared for graduate work. Three seniors – **Zach Curry**, **Becca Toor** and **Abigail Bradner** – captured top awards in three different categories this spring with the Carolina-Piedmont Section of the American Chemical Society, a first for Winthrop.

**Curry** is now in the combined M.D./Ph.D. program at **Virginia Commonwealth University** in Richmond, Va., where he is working summer rotations within the program and will start medical

school classes in August. He earned a full scholarship for both degrees and a stipend. **Toor**, the volleyball captain, heads to **Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine's pharmacy school in Florida**.

Other chemistry majors, **Natalie Bremner** and **Ron Nelson**, will seek their Ph.Ds. at Wake Forest University, **Christine Harvey** at Boston University, **Jeff Myers** at University of Virginia, **Paisley Trantham** at University of Maryland and **Amber Wallance** at Virginia Commonwealth.

**Here is a sampling of other seniors from December or May graduations who are heading to graduate school or the workforce:**

**Molly Baker**, computer science: engineer, Cyber Forensics division of SPAWAR Systems Center Atlantic.

**Tiffany Benjamin**, M.B.A., accounting: process support specialist, Zenta/Accenture Credit Services, Charlotte, N.C.

**Brandon Clopton**, computer science: software engineer, Xpient Solutions, Charlotte, N.C.

**Stephen Crawford**, English and philosophy/religion: attending Charleston School of Law

**Stephen Dickey**, business administration: leasing representative for Boxer Properties, based out of Dallas, Texas, in charge of leasing retail space to prospective tenants for a few shopping malls around the region.

**Laura Falendysz**, digital design: web developer, IBM, East Lansing, Mich.

**Jamie Glass**, business administration: staff accountant, Flakeboard America Ltd.

**Elizabeth Goodin**, special education: teacher, Scranton Elementary School, Scranton, S.C.

**Ryan Graczyk**, computer science: associate software engineer developer, Fidelity Investments, Durham, N.C.

**Ashley Grech**, special education: special education teacher, Pageland Elementary School, Pageland, S.C.

**Tristan Horan**, business administration: buyer, Performance Friction, Clover, S.C.

**Allison Howard**, psychology: accepted to Oxford University in England to complete a Master's of Science in evidence-based social intervention. She was a Rhodes Scholar candidate.

**Theresa Horton**, business administration: head of accounts receivable, Adams Services in Fort Mill, S.C., where she handles all the invoicing, billing, and purchase orders for the company.

**Adam Hudson**, business administration: recruiter in the professional services division, Aerotek, Charlotte, N.C.

**Jonathan McFadden**, mass communication: crime and public safety reporter and assistant online editor, The (Rock Hill, S.C.) Herald newspaper.

**Tyler McNeill**, business administration, finance: loan documentation specialist, Wells Fargo's home mortgage department, Fort Mill, S.C.

**Kaitlyn Nardi**, integrated marketing: marketing production assistant, Wild Dunes Resort, Isles of Palms, S.C.

**Noel Rizzuti**, integrated marketing: will pursue a strategic communications degree at Kansas State University. She received a graduate research assistantship position for a full scholarship for her degree program.

**Kathryn Scott**, psychology: recruiting analyst, Aon Hewitt, Charlotte, N.C.

**Nichole Shelly**, psychology: accepted into Teach for America program. She will be teaching middle school math in Cleveland, Ohio.

**Alexandra Simon**, modern languages: teacher at Knowledge Is Power Program, a charter in Galveston, Texas, where she will be a Teaching Fellow in the kindergarten classroom, with the hopes of becoming a middle school Spanish teacher the next year.

**Arthur Takahashi**, master's in history: social media and production, WRDW News 12 in Augusta, Ga.

**April Tucker**, business administration: loan adjuster, Wells Fargo, Fort Mill, S.C.

**Patrick F. Turney**, M.B.A.: property manager, Walk2Campus Properties, Bowling Green, Ky., market at Western Kentucky University

**Keith Walker**, business administration: assistant national bank examiner, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency.

**Robert Wheeler**, M.B.A, accounting: regional accountant, Compass Group, Charlotte, N.C.

**Danitra Williams**, sociology: manager trainee, Enterprise Rent-a-Car, Rock Hill, S.C.

**Curtis Wright**, business administration: human resources assistant, Mecklenburg EMS Agency, Charlotte, N.C.

**Ashley (Rye) Yauilla**, digital information design: network analyst, Windstream Communications.

[\[Back to Previous Page\]](#)

IN THE HEART OF THE CAROLINAS

|                  |                   |                  |                    |                            |                  |
|------------------|-------------------|------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|------------------|
| A-Z Site Map     | Board of Trustees | Email            | Finance & Business | Office of the President    | Tuition & Fees   |
| Accessibility    | Calendars         | Emergency/Safety | Financial Aid      | Online Learning (Graduate) | Visit the Campus |
| Alumni & Friends | Directions        | Employment       | Library            | Records & Registration     | Visitors Center  |
| Arts             | Directory         | Family Programs  | Majors & More      | Residence Life             | Wingspan         |